

**In the Specification:**

Please amend the specification as shown:

Please delete the paragraph on page 1, lines 7-11, and replace it with the following paragraph:

This Application ~~claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 371 to~~ is a National Stage of International Application of PCT/EP00/04918 filed May 26, 2000 which claims priority from Great Britain Patent Application No. 9915200.1 filed June 29, 1999 and entitled "Neurotrophic Factor Receptor."

Please delete the paragraph on page 6, lines 1-9, and replace it with the following paragraph:

Figure 2: is an alignment of the predicted protein sequences of splice variants A and B of rat GFR  $\alpha$  -4, (SEQ ID NOS: 8 and 9, respectively). The sequences of rat GFR  $\alpha$  -4 splice variants A and B were aligned using the ClustalW alignment program (EMBL, Heidelberg, Germany). Amino acid residues conserved between the 2 variants are included in the black areas. Amino acid residues are numbered to the right. The dashes indicate gaps introduced into the sequence to optimize the alignment.